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House of Representatives

The House met at 9 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Patrick J. Conroy, offered the following prayer: Dear God, we give You thanks for giving us another day.

Bless the Members of the people's House in these few days before so many Americans gather with families and loved ones in a season of good will toward all.

May that spirit pervade these Halls and Chambers, and may the work done and being done redound to the benefit of all, most particularly those whom You favor: the least among us.

As always, we pray that all that is done be for Your greater honor and glory.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to clause 1, rule I, I demand a vote on agreeing to the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

The SPEAKER. The question is on the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

The question was taken; and the Speaker announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground that a quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

The SPEAKER. Pursuant to clause 8, rule XX, further proceedings on this question will be postponed.

The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. KILDEE) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. KILDEE led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. The Chair will entertain up to five requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

REMEMBERING PENNSYLVANIA FFA'S PENNY BRAMMER

(Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in memory of Penny Brammer, who passed away last week after a courageous battle with breast cancer. She was 59.

Penny worked for the Pennsylvania FFA Association and was affectionately known as "Mama B" by the Commonwealth's youth leaders of agriculture. She inspired thousands of teenagers to have the passion and drive to pursue their dreams.

Penny is survived by her loving husband, high school and FFA sweetheart, Michael Brammer; her son and daughter-in-law, Greg and Jackie Brammer; her daughter and son-in-law, Sherisa and Jason Nailor; as well as her parents, George and Shirley Shaver. She also leaves her adored grandchildren: Terrin, Grace, Joleigh, Jordyn, and Jayce.

Mr. Speaker, my heart is heavy for the entire Brammer family, as well as for Penny's extended family at the Pennsylvania FFA Association and the

New Kingstown Volunteer Fire Company where Penny and Michael enjoyed years of fellowship and service to the community.

Penny dedicated her life to helping others, especially our youth. Her memory will live on in the hearts of all those whose lives she touched.

AMERICAN FAMILIES LEFT BEHIND AGAIN

(Mr. KILDEE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, yesterday, I guess for the second day in a row, this House voted for massive tax cuts for people at the very top and left behind a lot of working Americans. In fact, it gave permanent tax cuts to corporations and only temporary help for some American families. They said that the marketplace and corporations needed certainty. That is why those tax cuts were permanent.

Now, we have a continuing resolution for 28 days of funding after 11 months of not doing anything about it.

What about the certainty for veterans that they are going to get the healthcare that they deserve?

It is not a priority.

What about the certainty for children who depend on CHIP?

It is not a priority.

What about the certainty for those families who are struggling with a family member fighting opioid abuse?

All the promises ring hollow because they are not a priority. Corporations are the top priority. With this tax bill, and now the continuing resolution, the American people, who struggle every single day, are just not a priority. After 11 months of complete Republican control and false promises, American families get left behind again. It is a shame.

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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